



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

24 March 2005

National Ocean Service

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

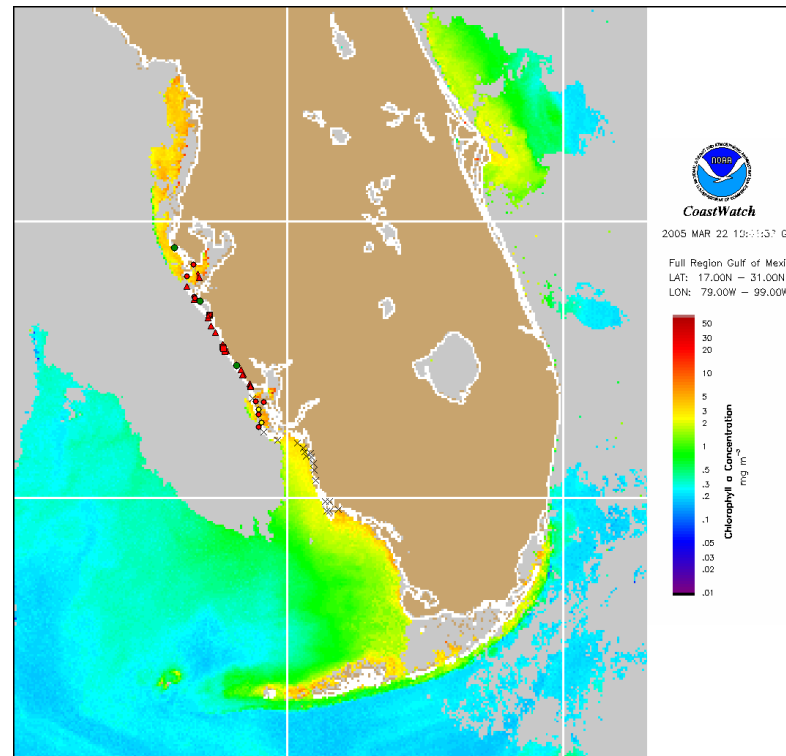
Last bulletin: March 22, 2005

Conditions: A harmful algal bloom has been identified from southern Pinellas to northern Lee Counties. Low impacts are possible at southern Pinellas and northern Lee Counties through Sunday. Within Manatee and Sarasota Counties patchy, moderate to high impacts are expected today through Sunday.

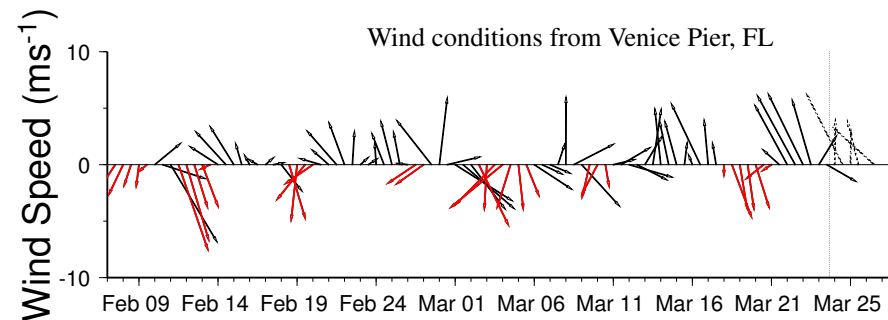
Analysis: A harmful algal bloom was identified from southern Pinellas to Lee Counties. Extents cannot be determined due to cloudy imagery. Chlorophyll values from Sanibel to Cape Romano generally in the low 3 μg decreasing slightly up to 7 miles offshore. Higher values (4-6.31 μg) are visible in the Fort Myers Beach area. As of March 21st, K. brevis was not present Collier County. Continued southerly winds through Friday will likely slow the southern transport. Gradually strengthening southwesterlies Friday afternoon through Sunday may cause patchy, moderate to high beach impacts and onshore transport.

Keys: Present imagery does not indicate a bloom in the vicinity of the March 14 medium concentration.

~Fenstermacher & Fisher



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from March 15, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



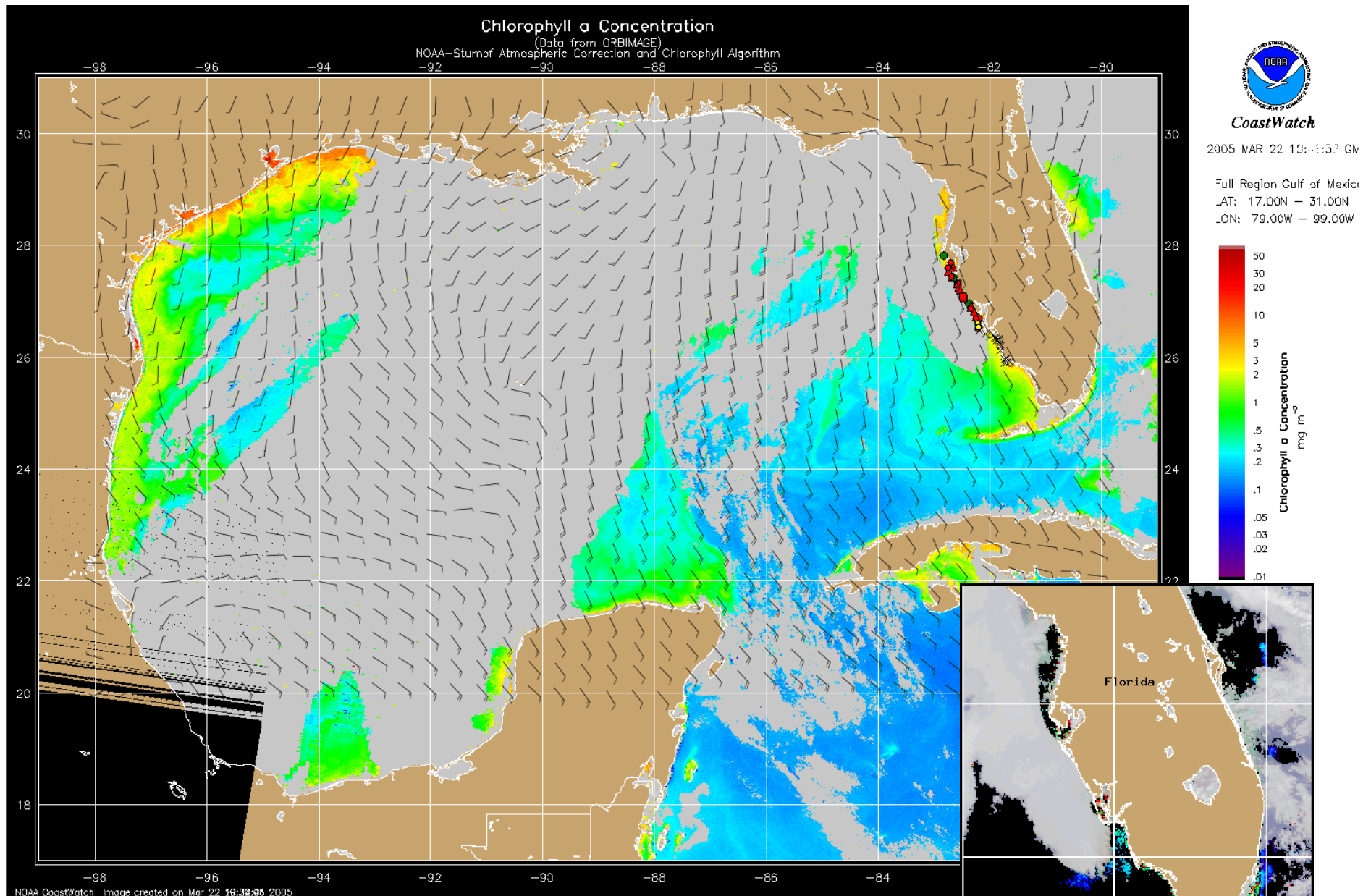
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Onshore winds expected today, becoming southerly (5-15 kts, 3-8 m/s) through Friday. Southwesterly winds will dominate Friday afternoon through Sunday, gradually intensifying to 20 kts (10 m/s).

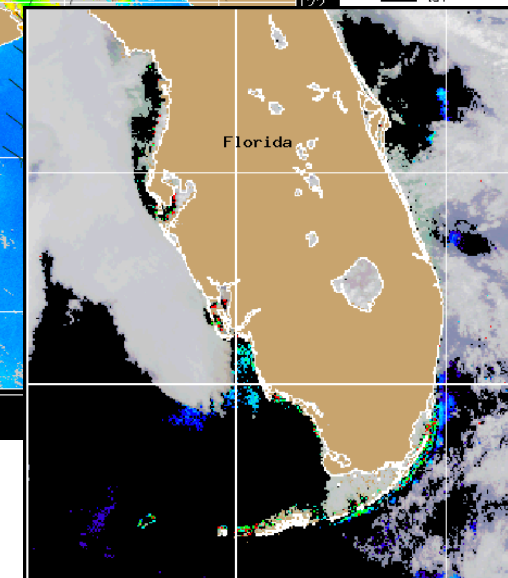
Keys: Mild southerlies today will become south to southeasterly at 10-15 kts (5-8 m/s) through Sunday.

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1. These data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Distribution for military, or commercial purposes is NOT permitted.
3. There are restrictions on Internet/Web/public posting of these data.
4. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite and forecast winds for March 25, 2005 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from March 15, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Blooms shown in red (see p. 1 analysis and image for interpretation)

